

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 11304 072216Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CPR-01 A-01
OPR-01 PRS-01 PM-03 USSS-00 USIA-01 /038 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3394

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 11304

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, SCUL, MX
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE BORDER MEETING BETWEEN MRS. CARTER AND
SRA. DE LOPEZ PORTILLO

REF: STATE 150662

1. FOLLOWING JULY 1 CONSULTATIONS ON UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS
AND SEPARATE MEETING WITH FONSEC ROEL ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS,
I STAYED BEHIND TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH HIM.

2. ROEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE SUGGESTION OF
NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER AS BETTER DATES FOR THE MEET-
ING. HE SAID HE WOULD CONVEY TO MRS. LOPEZ PORTILLO THIS
SUGGESTION AND OUR REQUEST FOR ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS SHE
MIGHT HAVE ON THE CONTENT OF THE MEETING.

3. THE FONSEC CONCLUDED BY ADDING THAT, WHEREAS WHEN WE
LAST DISCUSSED THIS TOPIC HE HAD BEEN VERY ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT THE MEETING, HE NOW FOUND HIMSELF CONSIDERABLY LESS
SO.

4. COMMENT: AT THAT POINT IN THE DAY ROEL WAS KEENLY UN-
HAPPY ABOUT WHAT HE HAD HEARD OF OUR LIKELY POLICY AP-
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PROACHES TO THE UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN PROBLEM. HE WAS MORE
DEPRESSED THAN I HAVE EVER SEEN HIM. IN EXPRESSING SECOND
THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BORDER MEETING HE WAS UNDOUBTEDLY
ANTICIPATING THE POSSIBILITY THAT A STRONG NEGATIVE RE-
ACTION IN MEXICO TO U.S. ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES ALONG THE
BORDER COULD COINCIDE WITH THE DATE OF A BORDER MEETING.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, MRS. LOPEZ PORTILLO WILL NOT EASILY BE DISSUADED FROM PRESSING FORWARD WITH PLANS FOR SUCH A MEETING AND SECRETARY ROEL'S NORMAL EBULLIENCE WILL RE-ASSERT ITSELF. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE WILL BE THAT BOTH SIDES WILL HAVE TO INCLUDE IN THEIR CALCULATIONS THE POSSIBLY UNTOWARD POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF OUR NEW POLICY APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS. THOMPSON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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